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SUBJECT: LETTER TO FOREIGN MINISTER STEINMEIER

11. Post is instructed to deliver the following letter to Foreign Minister Steinmeier. No signed original will follow.

12. Begin Text:

Dear Mr. Minister:

Thank you for your invitation to the G8/Outreach Foreign Ministers Meeting in Berlin. Regrettably, my schedule does not permit me to attend this important meeting. Under Secretary of State Reuben Jeffery, who serves as the G8 Foreign Affairs Sous-Sherpa and is the Department of State's principal representative on energy issues, will participate in my stead.

I am confident the meeting will successfully contribute to the discussion of energy security and the global environment. I look forward to hearing results of the meeting.

Sincerely,

Condoleezza Rice

END TEXT.

RICE